

The Facts About Student Visas



Did you know?

- 85% of all student visas are APPROVED
- Students can get next-day appointments for a visa interview
- The number of students studying in the United States is 654,062
- 97% of student visas are processed in less than one week
- Students can apply for a visa up to 120 days prior to registering for classes
- 50% of international students in the U.S. in academic year 2008/09 came from India, China, South Korea, Canada, and Japan
- Among the countries that saw a double-digit increase in the number of students coming to the U.S. in academic year 2008/09 were Turkey, Nepal, Vietnam, Saudi Arabia, and Brazil

Applying for a student visa is EASY.

The visa application is available online here: <https://ceac.state.gov/genniv/>

Documents you may be asked to provide during the visa interview:

- An acceptance letter from a U.S. university
- Transcripts from previous institutions attended
- Standardized test scores such as TOEFL, GRE, GMAT
- Evidence of sufficient funds to cover tuition and living expenses for one year
- Receipt for “SEVIS fee” -- Students from most countries can pay the “SEVIS fee” online at www.fmjfee.com
- I-20 Form from an SEVP-certified school. To find out if a school is SEVP-certified, check this list: www.ice.gov/doclib/sevis/pdf/ApprovedSchools.pdf

What you need to know about the visa interview

- Most student applicants will be interviewed in English
- Most visa interviews are short – 2 to 3 minutes
- Typical questions you may be asked during the visa interview include
 - Why did you pick this school?
 - What other schools did you consider?
 - What do you plan to do after you graduate?

For more information on applying for a student visa, check the website of the U.S. Embassy

For tips on preparing for the visa interview, consult the nearest EducationUSA advising center.